

OBSERVATIONS ON SOME RARE SCARABAEIDAE
MAINLY FROM CALIFORNIA

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There are a number of species of Scarabaeidae from the western states, which are very poorly known or very rarely collected. Many of these have been known only from the type series.

During the past several years, I have accumulated the following information which should be recorded.

Xeropsamobeus desertus (Van Dyke)
(Aphodiinae)

Recent investigation of the sand dune habitat in the Southwestern U.S. and Mexico turned up a number of individuals of this species. In the Glamis area of California, adults of this species have been taken at light and sifted from sand excavated from the base of a partially buried Palo Verde Tree (*Cercidium floridum* Benth.). At sand dunes near Puerto Penasco, Sonora, specimens were collected under a moist, partially dry cow chip. In both circumstances, the beetles were in moist sand. Specimens examined by me bear the following data:

U.S.A., CALIFORNIA. *Imperial Co.*: Glamis IV-22-1971 (4); 3 mi. N.W. Glamis III-24-1972 (2); 3.5 mi. N.W. Glamis III-10-1973 (4). *Riverside Co.*: Blythe, I-10-1942 (1) (CAS); XI-1941 (1) (CAS).

MEXICO, *Sonora*. 50 mi. S.W. Sonoyta (near Puerto Penasco) III-12-1973 (1); 10 mi. N. Ciudad Sotelo III-13-1973 (2).

Pachyplectris laevis LeConte
(Hybosorinae)

This rare species has been frequently encountered at night at the crests of sand dunes near Glamis in early spring. Fragments of dead individuals have been taken from the burrows of Kangaroo Rats (*Dipodomys merriami* Mearns and *D. deserti* Stephens). Other individuals were taken at lights. Specimens examined include:

ARIZONA. *Gila Co.*: Roosevelt Lake V (1).

CALIFORNIA. *Imperial Co.*: Glamis IV-22-1971 (1); 3 mi. N.W. Glamis, III-4-1972 (1), III-24-1972 (2), IV-15-1972 (1), IV-12-1973 (1); 3.5 mi. N.W. Glamis III-10-1973 (21). *Riverside Co.*: Hopkins Well, IV-16-1958 (1), V-16-1958 (1). *San Bernardino Co.*: Yermo IV-9-1940 (1). *San Diego Co.*: Borrego, III-31-1953 (5), IV-30-1954 (1); Mason Valley III-27-1928 (1).

UTAH. *Washington Co.*: Santa Clara Creek, near Ivins IV-18-1962 (1).

Serica egregia Dawson
(Melolonthinae)

I collected a number of examples of this species, mixed with 4 or 5 other species of the genus, at California, Los Angeles County, South Fork Public Camp (San Gabriel Mountains), in July, at blacklight.

Diplotaxis corbula Vaurie
(Melolonthinae)

Blacklights placed upon sand dunes have taken this species at: CALIFORNIA. *Imperial Co.*: 2 mi. N.W. Glamis, II-27-1972 (1), IV-23-1970 (2), V-5-1970 (2); 3 mi. N.W. Glamis III-4-1972 (3), III-24-1972 (2), IV-9-1972 (9), IV-12-1969 (4), IX-15/16-1972 (14); Regina IV-22-1971 (1), VII-4-1971 (15).

Phobetus robinsoni Saylor
(Melolonthinae)

This species has been previously known from only the type specimens (2 males). I have seen additional specimens with the following data:
CALIFORNIA. *San Diego Co.*: Jacumba, IV-4-1971 (9).

Dinacoma marginata Casey
(Melolonthinae)

In the Museum of Comparative Zoology, I recently found a female of this species collected at Palm Springs. Females of this genus were previously unknown (see Hardy 1974). The top of the head is damaged, and the posterior tarsi are missing, otherwise the specimen is in good condition. The female differs from the male as follows: length 20 mm., generally less squamose and with a much swollen abdomen. Head apparently more gibbose, antennal club reduced in size, anterior tibiae more massive, distinctly tridentate. Prothorax broader, more hirsute. Posterior tibial apex explanate.

Parabyrsopolis arizonae Ohaus
(Rutelinae)

Paraeroda rufobrunnea Casey. NEW SYNONYMY

I indicated in an earlier paper (Hardy 1971) that these 2 names might be synonymous. An examination of the types of both indicates this is the case. The type of *P. arizonae* Ohaus (a female, 30 mm. in length) bears the following labels: (1) "Arizona", (2) "female", (3) (mouth parts on a card), (4, Red) "Typus!", (5, Red) "Parabyrsopolis arizonae Ohaus", all labels handwritten. The type of *P. rufobrunnea* Casey (a female 30.5 mm.) bears the following labels: (1, press printed) "Huachucha Mts. Ariz. July 1905", (2, press printed) "Casey bequest 1925", (3, Red; press printed) "Type USNM 48553", (4, handwritten) "Paraeroda rufobrunnea Csy."

Additional specimens examined:

U.S.A., ARIZONA. Huachucha Mts. (w/o date) (6), VIII-1-1967 (3); Carr Cyn. VIII-19 (1), VIII-7-1924 (3); Ft. Huachucha (w/o date) (1); Parmerlee (w/o date) (1), VII-28-1904 (1).

MEXICO, CHIHUAHUA. Cuiteco, VII-3-1968 (1).

Phileurus illatus LeConte
(Dynastinae)

Leach (1935) reports this species as "exceedingly rare" in California, and reports a specimen from San Bernardino Co., California. I recently collected a specimen at light:

CALIFORNIA. *Imperial Co.*: 3 mi. N.W. Glamis, IX-15/16-1972 (1).

LITERATURE CITED

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LEACH, E. R. 1935. *Phileurus illatus* LeC. *The Pan-Pacific Entomol.* 11(4):169.

